

Pioneer Daughters Sponsor Marker



Members of the Daughters of the Pioneers are instrumental in obtaining "Pioneer Dell" to be used as a roadside park area.

Heber Fort Marker Will Be Dedicated on July 21

The Historical Marker commemorating the Old Heber Fort and honoring the families who lived in the fort the winter months of 1859-60 is to be dedicated on July 21 at the marker site at 2 p.m. The public is cordially invited.

The names of the heads of the families are on two bronze plaques which were presented by the descendants of these pioneers.

Jean Clotworthy, Elizabeth Carlile, John Carlile, James Carlile, George Carlile, John Crook, C. N. Carroll, William Davidson, John Lee, John Jordan, Hyrum Oaks, Richard Jones, James Davis, James Laird, Thomas Rasband, Alex Sessions, Bradford Sessions, John Sessions, Ellsha Thomas, Charles Thomas.

This information was taken from the journals of John Crook an accepted authority on pioneer history.

The bronze story plaque was presented by the Central Camp of DUP. The marker is of sandstone from the home of Joseph Hatch and was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shelton, and was erected by C. P. Brienholt, assisted by Lynn McKnight.

The cap stones were given by Erwin Rasband, a descendant, Vera Anderson and Lethe Tatge and are also of historical value.

The platform stone was given by Emma Wherritt.

The petrified wood trim is from the collection of Lynn and LaPreal McKnight.

The marker proudly stands in a shady nook at the north end of Main Street on the ground which was generously donated by Mr. and Mrs. D. L. (Bud) Hilton.

The spot will be made into a roadside park and is to be called "Pioneer Dell". Plans for adding to its natural beauty and pioneer atmosphere are underway. A background of lillacs and yellow roses spotted here and there by iris will be planted.

The marker committee representing the Wasatch Daughters of the Pioneers organization wish to publicly thank individuals and organizations and companies who unsolicited gave of materials and labor and the many others who helped raise the finances, both DUP members and friends.

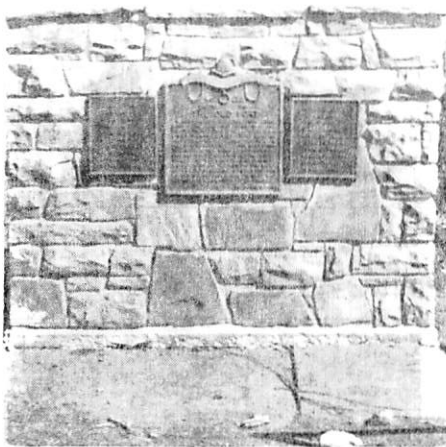
Mr. and Mrs. D. L. (Bud) Hilton, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Shelton, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Brienholt, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn McKnight, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Rasband, Mr. and Mrs. Kent Hiatt, N. C. Watson, Ivan Anderson, Emma Wherritt, Lethe Tatge, J. T. Murdock, DeWayne & Arlin Meeks, Junior Jones, Joe Widdison, Fred Haueter, Richard Trimble and sons, state road employees and district director Erin Leonard, county and city commissions, Chamber of Commerce, Heber Valley Jaycees, Central Camp of the DUP, Jack's Glass Shop, Descendants of the families, Wave Publishing Co., Turner Building Co., Ashton Lumber Co., Lee's Ready Mix.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Provost spent Saturday in Salt Lake and Ogden visiting with their children there and also a sister of Mrs. Provost, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Johnson.

Ruby Provost is able to be at home again following an operation in the Nielson Memorial Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Provost announced the engagement of their daughter, Irene Woodrow Pope. The marriage will take place in the near future.

Evidence #3



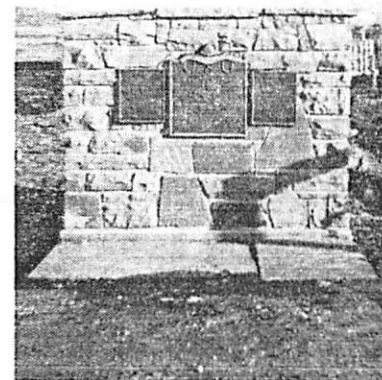
Old Heber Fort Monument, Heber—The inscription reads: "Daughters of Utah Pioneers, No. 253. Old Heber Fort. In 1858 a group of men came from Provo, surveyed the valley into 20 acre plots and selected the town site of Heber. The following winter twenty families stayed here. As protection from the Indians they built a fort one block west and one block south from the site. Homes built of cottonwood logs and joined together formed the outside walls of the fort. A school house 20 by 40 feet was built within the fort with two fire places and a stage. The building also served for church and socials. In 1860 the fort was enlarged to house forty four families." Families who spent the first winter in the fort are remembered on smaller plaques on the monument. The monument was dedicated by Bishop Heber M. Rasband, a grandson of one of the first settlers, Thomas Rasband. The marker was dedicated July 21, 1959.



Mrs. Kate B. Carter
General President, Daughters of Utah Pioneers

In 1858 a group of men came from Provo, surveyed the valley into 20 acre plots and selected the townsite of Heber. The following winter twenty families stayed here. As protection from the Indians they built a fort 1 block south and 1 block west from the site. Homes built of cottonwood logs and joined together formed the outside walls of the fort. A schoolhouse 20 by 40 feet was built within the fort with two fireplaces and a stage. The building also served for church and socials. In 1860 the fort was enlarged to house forty-four families.

Wasatch County, Utah



Heber City, the principal town of Wasatch County, Utah is located about 45 miles southeast from Salt Lake City. In 1858 several men were sent to Provo Valley to select a townsite and survey it into twenty acre plots. They returned to Provo and the following year a group of men, their families, also one unmarried man and a widow spent the winter here. They were: James Carlisle, Elizabeth Carlisle, John Carlisle, George Carlisle, C. N. Carroll, John Crook, James Davis, Jane Clotworthy, William Davidson, John Jordan, James Laird, John Lee, Richard Jones, Hyrum Oaks, Thomas Rasband, Bradford Sessions, John Sessions, Alex Sessions, Charles C. Thomas and Elisha Thomas. Improvements were commenced immediately, wild hay gathered, and crops planted and harvested. A townsite was surveyed in approximately the center of the valley and new comers built their log cabins in the shape of a fort as protection from the Indians. It was located in the northwest corner of the townsite, two blocks wide.

William Meeks presided in the valley by appointment but the new settlement was placed under the jurisdiction of Bishop Silas Smith of Provo. In 1860 Joseph S. Murdock was ordained a bishop by President Brigham Young and set apart to preside over the Saints who had located above the toll gate in the Provo Valley, which included Heber City.

The marker, built by the Daughters of Utah Pioneers to commemorate the early settlers of the old Heber Fort is located north of town, on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Hilton. The dedication was held July 21, 1959 at which time the sandstone-faced monument with three bronze plaques was unveiled. The dedicatory prayer was offered by Heber M. Rasband, one of the descendants of the first settlers.

elder in the Church to the end of his life, died at Heber City on the 15th of December, 1874.

Judge Giles has had six children, five sons and one daughter. He has also twenty grandchildren by whom he is deservedly loved, and to whom he is devotedly attached.

He is highly respected by the community in which he lives. We will now leave him, in his 67th year, to enjoy during the remainder of his life, the tranquillity and rest which he has merited by his industry, and his integrity in every position he has occupied.

From Tullidge's Histories

JOHN CROOK.

John Crook of Heber City is one of the early settlers and founders of Provo Valley. He was born at Fulton, near Bolton, Lancashire, England, October 11th, 1831. His parents are natives of the same place. He is the son of Dan Crook and Margaret Kay.

His father was born June 12th, 1801. He, Father Crook, was raised on a farm, and followed agricultural pursuits until he was about twenty years old. He then desired a change of occupation, and for that purpose he left the farm and went to a place a short distance from his home, called Eagle Mills, and obtained a situation in a tape weaving establishment, which employment he followed for many years. But in the summer season he usually went to the farm to assist his father during the hay harvest.

Dan Crook, like many of his ancestors had been brought up and educated in the Unitarian faith. He was a strictly moral and religious man. He adhered firmly to the tenets of his church and was a devoted seeker after God. He remained with that body of religious worshippers until the year 1840.

In the summer of that year, while at work in the hay field he heard his cousin speak of a sect of people called Mormons; but neither of these friends knew anything of their tenets. On the following Sunday, however, they heard a Mormon elder named Joseph Barrows preach on the doctrines of Mormonism. They listened attentively to what the elder said; they became much interested in the subject and expressed a desire to know more about it.

At the close of the services they held conversations with several of the members of the Mormon Church, and made some further inquiries about the people, and the origin of the Church. They were also presented with a pamphlet which treated on the fundamental principles believed in by the Mormon people.

After reading the tract, Mr. Crook became a regular attendant at their services, and in September of the same year, 1840, he was baptized into the Mormon

Church. October 18th, 1841, he was ordained a priest in the Mormon Church by Elder Robert Crook of Bolton. These two were not related to each other though of the same name.

In the meantime his wife (John's mother) had been investigating the doctrines. She was a strong Calvinist and, at first, she was very much opposed to the doctrines which her husband had recently embraced. Finally, however, she changed her views, believed the Mormons were right, and became one of them. She died March 20th, 1846.

When John Crook was about nine years old he went to the factory to learn "bobbin" winding; and at the age of twelve years he entered the establishment as a "full hand," although he had but boys' wages—six shillings per week. He had the care of two looms with twenty-five shuttles in each loom. After working one year his wages were raised to eight shillings per week. He also had the privilege of working over time, by which means he raised a considerable sum of money, besides his regular wages, which he gave to his parents, while the earnings of his over time he kept or appropriated to the purchase of clothing for himself.

It was about this time—ten years of age—that he began to accompany his father to the Mormon meetings, and thenceforth he became a regular attendant at the services. In April, 1847, he became a member of the Church by baptism. He was baptized by Peter Mayo.

On December 25th, 1850, the family left Bolton and went to Liverpool. At this port they engaged their passage on board the ship *Ellen*, for the United States. There were 485 Mormon emigrants on board. On January 4th, 1851, they were towed out of port and put to sea. The night was exceedingly dark, the weather was very stormy, the wind blew a hurricane, the sea was rough and the waves broke over the vessel in a furious manner. The ship's lights were put out by the wind.

About midnight an accident occurred. The *Ellen* collided with a schooner which was running across the ship's bows. The night was so dark that neither one saw the other. The *Ellen's* jib-boom and main-yards were broken, and the vessels became entangled in each other's rigging. As soon as possible they were cut loose, and the schooner sailed away—how much injury she sustained by the collision was not known to the ship's crew. During the remainder of the night, the *Ellen* was rolling and tossing about in the English Channel. She labored and struggled hard to bear up against the adverse winds and waves until daylight next morning, when they steered for, and put into the bay of Cardigan, Wales, for repairs and safety. They remained at Cardigan two weeks, being weather-bound during that time.

At the end of two weeks they put to sea again. But by the rough weather and the head winds they were detained in the channel tacking and beating about for eight days, and were driven back as far as the Holly Head lights. During the eighth night the wind changed and became fair, and at daylight next morning they discovered that they were scudding along under bare poll at the rate of ten knots an hour towards their destination.

From that time onward the weather was good and the voyage was fairly pleasant. On March 11th, they landed at New Orleans. Soon after their arrival, John Crook and his friends took passage on the steamboat, *Alexander Scott*, and went to St. Louis. They remained there two weeks, and then proceeded forward up the Mississippi River, en route for Kanessville.

The water in the river was very low, and the vessel was frequently aground on the sand bars. In one of these obstructions they were detained three days, until the water had cut through the sand bar and set them afloat again. Thus the journey up the river was long and tedious. They did not reach Kanessville until the second day of May. They remained at that place five years.

The first year they were at Kanessville, John Crook and his father engaged in agricultural pursuits. The second year, during the winter and summer months, they were engaged getting out timber and making and fitting up wagons for the Mormon emigrants who desired to pursue their journey to Utah.

On the 3rd of August, 1852, Father Dan Crook died. He had suffered greatly from chills and fever for a long time. His sickness was induced by hardships and exposure to bad weather.

"About this time, too," says John Crook, "I had a severe attack of the same kind of sickness. For eight weeks I was not free from them for one day. And at intervals of three days after that time the attacks were renewed for eight months. My sufferings were terrible. I was reduced in flesh, my appetite was gone, and my system was very much emaciated. I tried numerous doctors' remedies for my disease but they all failed. At last I was advised to take a strong dose of salt and water. I put as much salt as could be dissolved in a tea-cup full of cold water. I drank the mixture and in a short time I began to recover. I gradually improved until I was completely restored to health. The remedy, it will be seen, was very simple, but in my case it was very effectual; and I would recommend a trial of it to all who may be similarly afflicted.

"By this time," he continues, "my funds were exhausted, and I was under the necessity of obtaining a day's work whenever I could to procure bread to eat. My sister Alice was living with me at that time. She went to live as hired help with a Mrs. Meneste, a Jewish lady and a widow. I worked for her, also, chopping wood, or at other kind of labor."

Mr. Crook remained at Kanessville until the summer of 1856. By that time he, by his industry, had acquired considerable property which he disposed of, and procured an outfit, consisting of two yoke of cattle, a wagon, etc. On June 6th of this year he started across the plains in Captain P. C. Merrill's company for Utah.

The life on the plains was new and novel to John Crook, and many interesting incidents occurred on the journey which excited his wonder and his admiration. He was delighted with the grand scenery which he beheld in the wild west, the extended prairies which spread out before him like a vast sea and appeared almost interminable, and the towering peaks of the Rocky Mountains that seemed to kiss the sky.

Mr. Crook enjoyed the exciting chase in the buffalo hunt. At that time those animals existed in almost countless numbers. The company, during the overland trip, was furnished by the hunters of their company with abundance of buffalo beef. They frequently came into camp with a calf or a young cow which they had killed.

At Loup Fork the animals were stampeded. The night was dark and stormy. The guards were set and were watering the cattle when they saw three objects crawling along the ground towards the herd. They looked like bears. The animals saw them, they became frightened and all started off at a tremendous speed. The men in the camp went in pursuit, but it was three days before the stock were

recovered and the company able to resume the journey. The cattle got mixed with a herd of buffalo, and it was with much difficulty that they were separated. The company lost thirty head in the stampede. It was afterwards discovered that three cattle thieves who had followed the camp with the intention of stealing horses or oxen, caused the runaway, but they were not captured.

Near Fort Laramie another stampede took place. This time it was caused by a herd of buffalo. They were recovered with less difficulty than they were on the former run-away.

On several occasions the company was under the necessity of stopping the train and organizing the men, with their guns, to turn the course of the immense herds of buffalo that frequently came from the mountains to the Platte River for water. "If an opening had not been made in those masses of wild animals," says Mr. Crook, "they would have rushed onward with great impetuosity, and would have destroyed our train of wagons and cattle too." They arrived in the capital of Utah, August 11th. 1856

After a brief rest in Salt Lake City, John Crook went to Provo. At that place he purchased a few acres of land on which he erected a residence and settled for several years.

On the 6th of September, 1856, he was united in wedlock to Miss Mary Giles, sister of Judge Giles of Heber City.

On May 23rd, John Crook was ordained a member of the fifty-second quorum of the apostles of the seventies, by Joseph Young, brother of President Brigham Young.

In the spring of 1858, John Crook and four other gentlemen met at the house of Thomas H. Giles (who was one of the number), and organized the first Agricultural Society in Utah County. These five gentlemen appointed all the officers of the institution, none of whom were present at the meeting, but when advised of their appointments they accepted their offices.

In 1859, Mr. Crook sold his possessions in the city of Provo, and early in that year, in company with nine others he went to Provo Valley. These ten men were pioneers—these ten were the first white men to settle in that locality. When they first entered the valley there was not a dwelling house there. In order to shelter themselves from the severity of the weather they built a large wick-i-up of willows, about one and a half miles east of where the city of Heber is now built. It was located near a large spring, which they called "the London Spring." The wick-i-up they named "the London Wick-i-up." In this willow house they ate and slept. After they had plowed their lands and put in their crops, they went to the mountains, got out logs and built log cabins.

In the fall of the same year, John Crook went back to Provo and removed his family to their new location, where they have since continued to dwell. His children have grown up with the growth of Heber City, of which their father is one of the founders. He has contributed much to its material prosperity, and still takes a lively interest in everything that tends to promote its permanent prosperity.

In 1866, on the 26th of May, he was elected adjutant of the First Battalion Infantry of the Wasatch Militia, with the rank of captain. He held this office until the Militia of Utah—the Nauvoo Legion—was disorganized by proclamation, by Governor Shaffer. Mr. John Crook has held several ecclesiastical offices in the Mormon Church.

Keith Gunter, Humber (Volcanic) Inc.
more than 200 feet (61 meters) tall.
most valuable timber trees.

On the 15th of July, 1877, he was ordained a high priest, and set apart by Apostle Franklin D. Richards to be the first counselor to Wm. Foreman, of the Heber West Ward. He continued in this office over seven years.

On the 2nd of November, 1884, he was appointed a member of the High Council of the Wasatch Stake of Zion and was set apart by Apostle F. M. Lyman. In addition to the above John Crook has held other offices. For two years he held the office of Road Supervisor. He was school trustee eight years; and for eighteen years he was leader of the choir in Heber City.

Thus it will be seen that John Crook has for a long time past been one of the prominent men in the community, that he is still a solid citizen. He devotes all his energies to build up and promote the interests of the people with whom he is identified. He is well respected, not only by the leading citizens but also by the whole community in which he resides. He has nine children and three grandchildren.